REMARKS

Preliminary Amendment Dated October 12, 2004

Applicant filed a Preliminary Amendment on October 12, 2004 replacing two paragraphs of the Specification relating to priority claims of the present application. This amendment is not referenced in the Office Action mailed on April 13, 2005. Applicant requests that such amendment be entered, and that if the Preliminary Amendment was not received, Applicant be notified so that such amendment can be resubmitted.

Abstract

Applicant has amended the Abstract to reduce it to 150 words or less. Please note that the original Abstract, before amendment, still constitutes part of the Specification and teachings of the application.

Drawings

Applicant includes replacement drawing herein for Figure 3 to overcome the informality pointed out by the Patent Office ("PTO").

Claim 81

Applicant has cancelled claim 81 to overcome the objection by the PTO.

Claim 70

Applicant has amended claim 70 to overcome the insufficient antecedent basis of the "dispenser loop" that was used as a basis to object to this claim under 35 U.S.C. § 112(2).

Remarks Relating to Rejections

Applicant has amended claim 60, the only independent claim from among the pending claims, to clarify the present invention. Other amendments have been made to bring the dependent claims in line with the amendments made to claim 60. New claim 86 has been added that depends from claim 60.

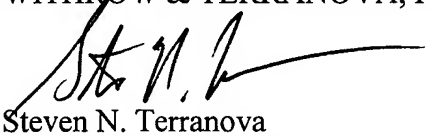
Claim 60 has been amended to provide that the "at least one vapor flow sensor" measures amounts of vapor flow recovered by a plurality of fuel dispensing points wherein the number of "at least one vapor flow sensor" is less than the number of fuel dispensing points "that can be active at any one time." The claimed invention provides the ability of the vapor flow sensor to measure vapor flow from a plurality of active dispensing points.

It is clear from the Specification of the application on page 16, paragraphs 45-48, for example, that the vapor flow sensor is arranged to measure vapor flow from two or more dispensing points that can be active at the same time. The invention provides for the ability to derive the vapor amounts recovered by each of the active dispensing points on a dispensing point-by-dispensing point basis even if the dispensing points are active at the same time and thus registering an aggregate amount of vapor recovered by the less number of vapor flow sensor(s). In this manner, there is not a dedicated vapor flow sensor to each fuel dispensing point or collection of fuel dispensing points that can be active at one time and wherein the system can derive the amount of vapor recovered by each of the dispensing points even when more than one dispensing point coupled to a vapor flow sensor is active at one time.

The PTO rejected claims of the present application based on U.S. Patent No. 6,082,415 to Rowland, U.S. Patent No. 6,170,539 to Pope, and U.S. Patent No. 6,302,165 to Nanaji, but none of these references disclose or teach or suggest the claims as amended and discussed above.

Respectfully submitted,

WITHROW & TERRANOVA, P.L.L.C.

By: 

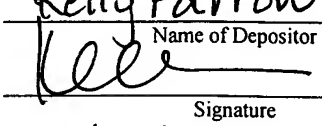
Steven N. Terranova
Registration No. 43,185
P.O. Box 1287
Cary, NC 27512
Telephone: (919) 654-4520

Date: April 26, 2005
Attorney Docket: 2500-016E-1

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: **COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**, ON APRIL 26, 2005.

Kelly Farrow
Name of Depositor


Signature

4/26/05
Date of Signature